UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

CIVIL ACTION NO.: 3:14-cv-30100-MGM

FAITH JOHNSON,)
Plaintiff,)

v.)

AMHERST NURSING HOME, INC. D/B/A)

CENTER FOR EXTENDED CARE AT)

AMHERST, KEENA KEERNAN and)

RASIDI AKODO,)

Defendants.) Dated: August 5, 2014

<u>DEFENDANTS AMHERST NURSING HOME, INC. d/b/a CENTER FOR EXTENDED</u> CARE AT AMHERST'S AND KEENA KEERNAN'S [sic] MOTION TO DISMISS

Defendants, Amherst Nursing Home, Inc., d/b/a Center for Extended Care at Amherst and Keena Keeran¹ (hereinafter collectively referred to as õDefendantsö)² hereby move, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b)(1), 12(b)(6) and Local Rule 7.1, to dismiss the Plaintiff¢s Complaint in its entirety as to the claims alleged against them. This Motion is based on the statements herein and on Defendantsøaccompanying Memorandum of Law in support of this Motion.

1. The Plaintifføs claims for õSexual Harassmentö and õSex/Gender Discrimination and Harassmentö under state and federal law (Counts I, II, IV, and V) are timebarred by the applicable statutes of limitations. As such, she has failed to state a claim upon which relief can be granted and those claims should be dismissed.

¹ The Complaint incorrectly identifies Defendant Keena Keeran as õKeena Keernanö.

² The undersigned does not represent Defendant Rasidi Akodo, and as such, this Motion does not address the claims alleged against him in his individual capacity and for which he would be personally liable, more specifically, Counts VIII, IX, and X.

- 2. Even if the Plaintifføs claims are not time-barred, she has failed to state claims for õSexual Harassmentö and õSex/Gender Discrimination and Harassmentö under state and federal law (Counts I, II, IV, and V) upon which relief can be granted. More specifically, she has not pled facts sufficient to establish liability of Defendant Amherst Nursing Home, Inc., d/b/a Center for Extended Care at Amherst (õCECAAö) for the acts of a non-supervisory coworker of the Plaintiff.
- 3. Additionally, the Plaintiff has failed to plead facts establishing that she is entitled to relief as to her claims for Sexual Harassment, Sex/Gender Discrimination and Harassment and Retaliation as to the Defendants (Counts I, II, III, IV, V, VI). Namely, the Plaintiff has failed to plead facts sufficient to establish a constructive discharge and, as such, lacks an essential element of her claims (adverse employment action).
- 4. As to the Plaintifføs claims against Defendant Keeran (Counts XI, XII), the Plaintiff has not met her burden of pleading facts to establish that she was subjected to an adverse employment action, an essential element of her claims. As such, she has failed to state a claim upon which relief can be granted as to Defendant Keeran and those claims should be dismissed.
- 5. The Plaintifføs common law negligence claim (Count VII) is barred by the exclusivity provisions of the Massachusetts Workersø Compensation Act (Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 152) and/or the Massachusetts Fair Employment Practices Act (Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 151B) and therefore, should be dismissed.
- The Plaintiff has failed to plead facts establishing her entitlement to relief under
 Title VII (Counts I, II, and III) and Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 151B

(Counts IV, V, VI, XI, and XII), namely, that the Defendant CECAA is an employer which is subject to the requirements of those statutes.

7. The Plaintiff has failed to meet her burden of establishing this Courtos jurisdiction over her claims brought under state law (Counts IV, V, VI, VII, XI, and XII).

For the foregoing reasons and those stated in the Defendant

Memorandum of Law in support of this Motion, the Defendants respectfully request that the Plaintiff

them be dismissed in their entirety.

REQUEST FOR ORAL ARGUMENT

The Defendants, pursuant to L.R. 7.1(d), respectfully request oral argument on this Motion.

Respectfully submitted,

The Defendants,

AMHERST NURSING HOME, INC. D/B/A CENTER FOR EXTENDED CARE AT AMHERST, KEENA KEERNAN

By their Attorney,

/s/ Meghan B. Sullivan

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I hereby certify that on the 5th day of August, 2014, I electronically filed the *Defendants*

Amherst Nursing Home, Inc. D/B/A Center for Extended Care at Amherst's and Keena

Keernan's [sic] Motion to Dismiss with the Clerk of Court using the CM/ECF system which will

send notification of such filing to the following registered participants:

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/s/ Meghan B. Sullivan

Meghan B. Sullivan, Esq.

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